

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed S. 1642, Higher Education Amendments Act.

Senate passed H.J. Res. 44, Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act Renewal Approval.

The House passed H.R. 3074, making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S9795–S9855

Measures Introduced: Ten bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1859–1868, S. Res. 278–280, and S. Con. Res. 42. **Pages S9831–32**

Measures Reported:

Special Report entitled “Further Revised Allocation to Subcommittees of Budget Totals from the Concurrent Resolution for Fiscal Year 2008”. (S. Rept. No. 110–133)

S. 1859, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008. (S. Rept. No. 110–134)

S. 423, to increase, effective as of December 1, 2007, the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans. (S. Rept. No. 110–135)

S. 1500, to support democracy and human rights in Zimbabwe. (S. Rept. No. 110–136)

S.J. Res. 16, approving the renewal of import restrictions contained in the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003. **Page S9831**

Measures Passed:

Higher Education Amendments Act: By a unanimous vote of 95 yeas (Vote No. 275), Senate passed S. 1642, to extend the authorization of programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965, agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, and after taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S9797–S9811**

Adopted:

By a unanimous vote of 93 yeas (Vote No. 274), Kennedy/Coburn Modified Amendment No. 2381 (to Amendment No. 2369), to provide for a demonstration and certification regarding the use of certain Federal funds. **Pages S9797–S9811**

Coburn Amendment No. 2369, to certify that taxpayers’ dollars and students’ tuition support educational rather than lobbying activities. **Pages S9797–S9811**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

A unanimous-consent request was granted permitting Senator Landrieu to change her yeas vote to a nay vote on Vote No. 273 changing the outcome of the vote to 37 yeas to 54 nays relative to Brown Amendment No. 2376, rejected on July 23, 2007. **Page S9811**

Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act Renewal Approval: By a vote of 93 yeas to 1 nay (Vote No. 276), Senate passed H.J. Res. 44, approving the renewal of import restrictions contained in the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003, clearing the measure for the President. **Pages S9819–22**

Second Higher Education Extension Act: Senate passed S. 1868, to temporarily extend the programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965. **Page S9824**

Social Security Act Amendment: Committee on Finance was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2429, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide an exception to the 60-day limit on Medicare reciprocal billing arrangements between two physicians during the period in which one of the physicians is ordered to active duty as a member of a reserve component of the Armed Forces, and the

bill was then passed, clearing the measure for the President. **Page S9852**

Honoring the Life of Dame Lois Browne Evans: Senate agreed to S. Res. 248, honoring the life and achievements of Dame Lois Browne Evans, Bermuda's first female barrister and Attorney General, and the first female Opposition Leader in the British Commonwealth. **Pages S9852–53**

Expressing Appreciation for Donald Jeffry Herbert: Senate agreed to S. Res. 261, expressing appreciation for the profound public service and educational contributions of Donald Jeffry Herbert, fondly known as "Mr. Wizard". **Pages S9852–53**

National Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis Awareness Week: Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 42, recognizing the need to pursue research into the causes, treatment, and eventual cure for idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, supporting the designation of a National Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis Awareness Week. **Pages S9853–54**

Congratulating Anaheim Ducks: Senate agreed to S. Res. 280, congratulating the Anaheim Ducks for winning the 2007 Stanley Cup Championship. **Page S9854**

Measures Considered:

Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act: Senate began consideration of H.R. 2638, making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S9811–19, S9823–24**

Pending:

Byrd/Cochran Amendment No. 2383, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S9812–17**

Bingaman Amendment No. 2388 (to Amendment No. 2383), to provide financial aid to local law enforcement officials along the Nation's borders. **Pages S9823–24**

During consideration of this measure, Senate also took the following action:

Senate sustained a point of order against Vitter Amendment No. 2384 (to Amendment No. 2383), to allow for expanded uses of funding allocated to Louisiana under the hazard mitigation program while preserving the goals of the program to reduce future damage from disasters through mitigation, as being in violation of Rule XVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate which prohibits legislation on appropriations matters, and the amendment thus fell. **Page S9817**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, July 25, 2007. **Page S9854**

Nominations Reported: The following nominations were reported and placed on the Executive Calendar:

Roslynn Renee Mauskopf, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York, which was sent to the Senate on January 9, 2007, from the Committee on the Judiciary.

William Lindsay Osteen, Jr., of North Carolina, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of North Carolina, which was sent to the Senate on January 9, 2007, from the Committee on the Judiciary.

Martin Karl Reidinger, of North Carolina, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of North Carolina, which was sent to the Senate on January 9, 2007, from the Committee on the Judiciary.

Timothy D. DeGiusti, of Oklahoma, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Oklahoma, which was sent to the Senate on February 15, 2007, from the Committee on the Judiciary.

Janis Lynn Sammartino, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California, which was sent to the Senate on March 19, 2007, from the Committee on the Judiciary.

Joe W. Stecher, of Nebraska, to be United States Attorney for the District of Nebraska for the term of four years, which was sent to the Senate on April 30, 2007, from the Committee on the Judiciary.

Charles L. Hopkins, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs (Operations, Preparedness, Security and Law Enforcement), which was sent to the Senate on April 11, 2007, from the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. **Page S9831**

Messages from the House: **Page S9826**

Measures Referred: **Page S9827**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Page S9827**

Enrolled Bills Presented: **Page S9827**

Executive Communications: **Pages S9827–29**

Petitions and Memorials: **Pages S9829–31**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S9831**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S9832–34**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S9834–39**

Additional Statements: **Pages S9825–26**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S9839–51**

Notices of Hearings/Meetings: **Pages S9851–52**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S9852**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S9852**

Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today. (Total—276) **Pages S9811, S9822**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 6:45 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, July 25, 2007. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on pages S9854–55.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

CHILD PROTECTION ON THE INTERNET

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the protection of children on the internet, after receiving testimony from Lan W. Neugent, Virginia Department of Education, Richmond; David Finkelhor, University of New Hampshire Horton Social Sciences Center Crimes Against Children Research Center, Durham; Ernie Allen, National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, Alexandria, Virginia; Christine N. Jones, Go Daddy Group, Inc., Scottsdale, Arizona; and Lauren Nelson, Linwood, New Jersey.

GLOBAL WARMING POLICY

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Subcommittee on Private Sector and Consumer Solutions to Global Warming and Wildlife Protection concluded a hearing to examine economic and international issues, focusing on global warming policy, including S. 280, to provide for a program to accelerate the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in the United States by establishing a market-driven system of greenhouse gas tradeable allowances, to support the deployment of new climate change-related technologies, and to ensure benefits to consumers from the trading in such allowances, after receiving testimony from Timothy H. Profeta, Duke University Nicholas Institute for Environmental Policy Solutions, Durham, North Carolina; Blythe Masters, JP Morgan Chase, New York, New York; Garth Edward, Shell International Trading and Shipping Company, Ltd., London, United Kingdom; and Robert C. Baugh, AFL–CIO Industrial Union Council and Energy Task Force, and Margo Thorning, American Council for Capital Formation, both of Washington, D.C.

FARM COUNTRY TAX POLICY

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine the government tax policy in farm country, focusing on the extent to which the United States Department of Agriculture follows its regulations that are intended to provide assurance that farm program payments go only to eligible estates and prevents improper payments to deceased individuals, after receiving testimony from Alison

Siskin, Specialist in Immigration Policy, Domestic Social Policy Division, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress; Lisa Shames, Director, Natural Resources and Environment, Government Accountability Office; Glen Keppy, Associate Administrator, and John Johnson, Deputy Administrator, both for Farm Programs, Farm Services Agency, Department of Agriculture; Tom Buis, National Farmers Union, Washington, D.C.; and Terrance R. Fankhauser, Colorado Cattlemen's Association, Arvada, on behalf of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing on the nominations of Michael W. Michalak, of Michigan, to be Ambassador to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, and Eric G. John, of Indiana, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Thailand, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

NOMINATION

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Henrietta Holsman Fore, of Nevada, to be Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senator Hutchison, testified and answered questions in her own behalf.

GULF SECURITY

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing regarding Gulf Security dialogue from R. Nicholas Burns, Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs; and Lieutenant General Jeffrey B. Kohler (USAF), Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, and Major General Philip M. Breedlove, USAF, Vice Director, Strategic Plans and Policy (J–5), The Joint Staff, both of the Department of Defense.

NOMINATION

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Jim Nussle, of Iowa, to be Director of the Office of Management and Budget, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senators Grassley and Harkin, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee continued oversight hearings to examine the Department of Justice, receiving testimony from Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales, Department of Justice.

Hearings recessed subject to the call.